

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 199 - SB 621

March 9, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Defines “funeral merchandise” relative to the *Tennessee Prepaid Funeral Benefits Act* as merchandise sold by a funeral establishment, cemetery, or any other individual, partnership, company, corporation, or association, intended for use in the final disposition of a dead human body. The definition includes caskets and containers designed to be used in the grave around the casket, commonly known as outer burial containers, burial vaults, grave boxes, and grave liners. Funeral merchandise does not include lawn crypts.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- According to the Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers, this legislation will not affect any computation of deposits made into any pre-need funeral trust fund established pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 62-5-407 or any other deposit into any trust required by statute.
- This will have no significant effect on the regulatory duties of the Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all regulatory boards are required to be self-supporting over any two year period.
- The Board of Funeral Directors had an annual deficit of \$98,294 in FY12-13, an annual surplus of \$373,246 in FY13-14, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$1,066,326 on June 30, 2014.

IMPACT TO COMMERCE:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumption:

- This legislation will not affect any computation of deposits into any pre-need funeral trust fund, required to be made in conjunction with a contract for pre-need funeral merchandise or services. The provisions of the bill will not significantly affect revenue or expenditures of the funeral industry in the state.

CERTIFICATION:

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The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "S".

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

/jdb